

REMARKS

This application has been amended in a manner that is believed to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 1 and 3-10 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 3-10 have been amended to address the formal issues raised in the Office Action. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate all of the recitations of claim 2 and portions of claim 3. Claims 2 and 11 have been cancelled.

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 1 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicants believe that the present amendment obviates this rejection.

Claim 1 was rejected for reciting the term "principally". Claims 4 and 5 were rejected for reciting the term "particularly". Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended so that these terms are no longer recited in the claims.

Claims 1, 6 and 7 were rejected for reciting the term "properly". Claims 1, 6 and 7 have also been amended so that this term no longer appears in the claims.

Claim 3 was rejected for reciting the term "composed of". The Official Action alleged that it is unclear whether the term was directed to "open" or "close" language. Claim 3 has been amended so that this term is no longer recited.

Claim 4 was rejected for reciting the term "used" of the bacterial composition according to claim 1. However, claim 4 has been amended to recite a method for the treatment or pre-treatment of effluent rich in organic fats. As a result, Applicants believe that claim 4 is definite to one skilled in the art and satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §101.

Claim 5 was objected to for allegedly not reciting the proper preamble. As suggested by the Office Action, claim 5 has been amended to recite "a process". Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the suggestion as to how to overcome this objection.

Claim 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by DILEK et al. Applicants believe that the present amendment obviates this rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a bacterial composition for the degradation of organic fats which comprises bacterial strains, *Klebsiella oxytoca*, *Serratia odorifera* and *Aeromonas hydrophyla*. As DILEK et al fails to disclose or suggest the claimed bacterial composition, Applicants believe that DILEK et al. fail to anticipate or render obvious the claimed invention.

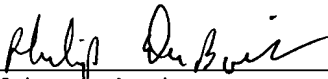
As a result, Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action. Allowance and passage to issue on that basis is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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